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EX26.5.3

June 19th, 2017

Mayor Tory and The Mayor's Executive Committee
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Re: Approval of the Interim Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti Black Racism

Dear Mayor John Tory and Executive Committee Members:

TAIBU Community Health Centre provides primary health care and related services for Black populations across the Greater Toronto Area as its priority population and residents of the our local community of Malvern. Recognizing that systemic oppression has fostered conditions of ill-health with Black communities, we strive to deliver these services through intersectional, equity based and culturally affirming practices which promote holistic wellness, health education, and prevention.

For the past nine (9) years, TAIBU is at the forefront of the delivery of community health and social services to Black communities across the Greater Toronto Area. Our work aims to improve, promote and protect the health and well-being for Black populations through quality and culturally designed primary health care services and strategies. TAIBU recognizes and affirms the City of Toronto's definition Anti-Black racism as the beliefs, attitudes, prejudice, stereotyping and/or discrimination that is directed at people of African descent which is rooted in their unique history and experience of enslavement and colonization here in Canada.

TAIBU applauds and supports The Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism that has been put before you for consideration more pointedly, we the believe that if the 22 recommendations and 80 actions to tackle the five issues areas identified; Children and Youth Development, Health and Community Services, Job Opportunities and Income Supports, Policing and the Justice System and Community Engagement and Leadership, are truly addressed from an anti-black racism and anti-oppression framework the outcomes could rigorously undermine the legacy of anti-Black racism which lies in the current social, economic, and political marginalization of Black Torontonians.

In Conclusion, TAIBU believes that like the Ontario's Black Youth Action Plan's strategy, that the City of Toronto should give some careful consideration for the allocation of new

and meaningful funding/resources to help reduce some of the critical immediate disparities for Black Torontonians, particularly in the areas Mental Health, Community Services, Job Opportunities and Income Supports. All of your research to produce this **Interim Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti Black Racism** provides sufficient evidence in the aforementioned areas of concerns. Nine years of experience in serving the Black Population across the GTA it is evident that anti-Black racism is systemic and deeply entrenched within the Torontonians society; its institutions, policies and practices.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Jno Baptiste', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the left.

Tony Jno Baptiste
PROGRAM MANAGER